



Intelligence Information Report

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COUNTRY

CAMBODIA/SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI

JANUARY-15 AUGUST 1970

SUBJECT

POW CAMPS FOR ALLIED PRISONERS IN CAMBODIA
SUBORDINATE TO THE CENTRAL OFFICE FOR SOUTH VIETNAM--
PROBLEMS CREATED FOR THE CAMPS AND HOSPITALS IN THE
AREA BY ALLIED MILITARY ACTION

REPORT NO. CS-311/01168-71

DATE DISTR. 12 FEBRUARY 1971

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VIETNAM, SAIGON 721 JANUARY 1971

SOURCE

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE

Date 20 8 72

(classification)		(dissem controls)					
STATE	DIA	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA	or Field Distribution see final paragraph	

CAMP LOG #:

REPORT LOG #: 1231

1:50,000 Coord: _____

1:250,000 Coord: _____

UTM Card: ☒

XU 310230 → 340230

XU 310230

278188
EOL 171 (S-47,601/DOYH)
340230

Dia #104

CS-311/01168-71

[REDACTED]

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SUMMARY. A PRISONER OF WAR /POW/ CAMP FOR ALLIED PRISONERS WAS LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF KRABAS VILLAGE, MIMOT DISTRICT, KOMPONG CHAM PROVINCE, CAMBODIA, AS OF AUGUST 1970. TWELVE U.S. PRISONERS AND 24 ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM /ARVN/ PRISONERS, WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY ELEMENTS OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY /NVA/ 5TH, 7TH AND 9TH DIVISIONS, WERE DETAINED IN THE CAMP. THE CAMP WAS ADMINISTERED BY THE 429TH SAPPER GROUP, WHICH HAD TWO COMPANIES AND SIX TANKS ASSIGNED TO IT. ON 7 JANUARY 1970 FOUR U.S. POW'S AND 72 WOUNDED NVA SOLDIERS WERE TRANSFERRED FROM A POW CAMP NEAR KRAVIEN VILLAGE, MIMOT DISTRICT. THE 50TH REAR SERVICES GROUP /RSG/ HANDLED THEIR TRANSFER TO THE 300TH RSG IN KRATIE PROVINCE, WHICH WOULD TAKE OVER THEIR PASSAGE TO NORTH VIETNAM /NVN/. DURING MARCH 1970 THREE CAMPS FOR ALLIED POW'S WERE MOVED FROM THE VICINITY OF KRAVIEN VILLAGE TO A LOCATION NORTH OF THE CHHLONG RIVER BECAUSE OF AIR STRIKES, WHICH HAD KILLED APPROXIMATELY 870 NVA TROOPS ASSIGNED TO THE D.250 NVA CONVALESCENT REGIMENT AND HAD KILLED AND WOUNDED STAFF MEMBERS OF THE K.52 HOSPITAL. D.52 HOSPITAL AND THREE OTHER HOSPITALS WERE MOVED TO NEW LOCATIONS. A PRISON FOR UNDISCIPLINED NVA TROOPS WAS ALSO LOCATED IN THIS GENERAL AREA. END SUMMARY.

1. A POW CAMP FOR ALLIED PRISONERS WAS LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF KRAVAS VILLAGE, MIMOT DISTRICT, KOMPONG CHAM PROVINCE, CAMBODIA. THIS INSTALLATION, CODED KA 2, WAS LOCATED AT XU278188. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] VISITED THIS INSTALLATION ON THREE OCCASIONS, THE LAST TIME ON [REDACTED] AUGUST 1970 WHEN HE OBSERVED 12 U.S. PRISONERS, INCLUDING TWO NEGROS, AND 24 ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM /ARVN/ PRISONERS IN DETENTION. THE U.S. PRISONERS WERE INFANTRYMEN WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED.

[REDACTED]

IN ELEMENTS OF THE NVA 5TH, 7TH AND 9TH DIVISIONS. THERE WERE NO WOUNDED PRISONERS IN THE POW CAMP.

2. THE POW CAMP WAS ADMINISTERED BY THE 429TH SAPPER GROUP, WHICH WAS DEPLOYED NEAR KRABAS VILLAGE IN THE VICINITY OF XIUWIBIE. COMMENT--THE 429TH SAPPER GROUP IS ALSO KNOWN AS J-16, AKA UNIT 429, AKA SAPPER COMMAND, HEADQUARTERS, SOUTH VIETNAMESE LIBERATION ARMY /SVNLA/, CENTRAL OFFICE FOR SOUTH VIETNAM /COSVN/. THE 429TH SAPPER GROUP HAD TWO COMPANIES AND SIX TANKS ASSIGNED TO IT. COMMENT--

THE TANKS HAD BEEN CAPTURED FROM U. S. FORCES AND WERE OPERATED BY NVA PERSONNEL WHO HAD BEEN TRAINED AT THE VINH PHUC TRAINING CENTER, VINH PHUC PROVINCE, NVN.

3. THE POW ENCLOSURE CONSISTED OF SEVEN STRUCTURES, ONE HOUSED U.S. PRISONERS, TWO WERE FOR ARVN PRISONERS, THREE FOR THE GUARDS, AND ONE MESS HALL. THESE BUILDINGS WERE APPROXIMATELY 3 METERS HIGH WITH ABOUT 1/2 METER OF CONSTRUCTION UNDERGROUND AND WERE GUARDED BY ROUGHLY 48 GUARDS. SIX OR SEVEN OF THE GUARDS WERE DISABLED VETERANS AND THE OTHERS WERE CLASSIFIED AS BEING IN AS PHYSICAL CONDITION, SOMETHING LESS THAN THE NORMAL STANDARD. THE POW CAMP WAS PROTECTED BY MINE AND GRENADE FIELDS WHICH ENCIRCLED IT. PRIOR TO 1970, PRISONERS WERE ALLOWED 4 CAMBODIAN RIELS PER DAY FOR FOOD. /THE OFFICIAL RATE OF EXCHANGE IS 55.5 TO US\$1.00./ IN 1970, THIS ALLOWANCE WAS RAISED TO 6 RIELS PER DAY. A STANDARD MEAL CONSISTED OF RICE, VEGETABLES AND FISH. THE PRISONERS RECEIVED AN ADDITIONAL RATION OF PORK OR BEEF TWICE A WEEK.

4. ON 7 JANUARY 1979, OBSERVED FOUR U.S. POW'S AND 72 NVA WOUNDED SOLDIERS BEING TRANSFERRED FROM A POW LOCATION NEAR ROAD BRIDGE NO. 48 AND KRAVIE VILLAGE, MINOT DISTRICT, KOMPONG CHAM PROVINCE. THE 56TH RSO, WHICH WAS DEPLOYED IN MINOT DISTRICT, HANDLED THE ADMINISTRATIVE WORK AND THE TRANSFER OF THE POW'S AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS TO THE 380TH RSO WHICH OPERATED IN KRATIE PROVINCE,

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CAMBODIA, AND WHICH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING THE MEN TO NVN.

COMMENT-- IN JULY 1970, THE 50TH RSG STOPPED MOVING POWS AND NVA WOUNDED BECAUSE OF HEAVY LOSSES ALONG THE TRAILS.

5. DURING MARCH 1970, BECAUSE OF AIR STRIKES THREE CAMPS FOR ALLIED POWS WERE MOVED FROM THE VICINITY OF KRAVIEN VILLAGE TO A LOCATION NORTH OF THE CHU LONG RIVER WITHIN THE SQUARE FORMED BY COORDINATES XU310230, XU340230, XU310220, AND XU340220. THESE AIR STRIKES KILLED APPROXIMATELY 870 NVA TROOPS ASSIGNED TO THE D.250 NVA CONVALESCENT REGIMENT AND KILLED 12 AND WOUNDED EIGHT STAFF MEMBERS OF THE K.52 HOSPITAL. HOSPITALS K.70, D.71A, D.71B AND D.52 WERE LIKEWISE MOVED TO NEW LOCATIONS. A PRISON FOR UNDISCIPLINED NVA TROOPS WAS ALSO LOCATED IN THIS GENERAL AREA. THE THREE POW CAMPS FOR ALLIED PRISONERS, THE NVA PRISON AND THE FOUR CONVALESCENT HOSPITALS ALL FELL UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE 50TH RSG.

6. FIELD DISSEM--STATE, USMACV, USAID, CORDS, DIR/JUSPAO /MR. NICKEL ONLY/, 7TH AIR FORCE, USARV, NAVFORV, 525TH MI GP. 1021 FAS, OSI, CINCPAC, PACFLT, PACAF, ARPAC

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